

Alexei Navalny

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Alexei Anatolievich Navalny (born [4 June 1976](#)) is a Russian opposition leader, lawyer, and anti-corruption activist. He came to international prominence by organizing anti-government demonstrations and running for office to advocate reforms against corruption in Russia, and against President [Vladimir Putin](#) and his government. Navalny was a Russian Opposition Coordination Council member. He is the leader of the Russia of the Future party and founder of the Anti-Corruption Foundation.

In August 2020, Navalny was hospitalized in serious condition after being poisoned with a Novichok nerve agent. Navalny accused Putin of being responsible for his poisoning, and an investigation implicated agents from the Federal Security Service (FSB). The EU, UK and US responded by imposing sanctions on senior Russian officials. On 17 January 2021, Navalny returned to Russia and was detained on accusations of violating parole conditions because he had failed to report to Russia's Federal Prison Service (FSIN) twice per month during his illness. Following his arrest and the release of the documentary *Putin's Palace*, which accused Putin of corruption, mass protests were held across Russia. On 2 February, his suspended sentence was replaced with a prison sentence of over two and half years' detention in a corrective labour colony in Vladimir Oblast. While in prison, Navalny and human rights groups have accused Russian authorities of using torture against him. He is recognized by [Amnesty International](#) as a prisoner of conscience. In October 2021, he was awarded the [Sakharov Prize](#) for his work on [human rights](#).



The inner compass of Alexei Navalny says where to go to Alexei Navalny, and everything else is uninteresting to me.

Quotes

- No one should be beaten. [Instead,] everything that bothers us should be carefully, but unyieldingly eliminated by means of deportation... A tooth without a root is considered dead. A nationalist is he who does not want the root 'Russian' to be deleted from the word 'Russia.' We have the right to be Russian in Russia and we will protect this right.
- As quoted in *Putin crafts spectacle for re-election landslide* (<https://web.archive.org/web/20180401072527/https://cambridgeglobalist.org/?p=1227>), (18 March 2018), *The Cambridge Globalist*, about the original video *Become nationalist!* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICoc2VmGdfw>) (17 October 2007)

- I think very poorly of United Russia. United Russia is the party of corruption, the party of crooks and thieves. And it is the duty of every patriot and citizen of our country to make sure that this party is destroyed.

- As quoted in "[Net Impact: One man's cyber-crusade against Russian corruption](http://archive.is/FGqQE)" (<http://archive.is/FGqQE>) (4 April 2011), by [Julia Ioffe](#), *The New Yorker*

- I had this cliché moment of a Russian émigré abroad: I really missed black bread. I know it's stupid, but I really missed it.

- As quoted in "[Net Impact: One man's cyber-crusade against Russian corruption](http://archive.is/FGqQE)" (<http://archive.is/FGqQE>) (4 April 2011), by [Julia Ioffe](#), *The New Yorker*

- [F]orgive me if this sounds pompous, but it's better to die standing up than live on your knees.

- As quoted in "[Net Impact: One man's cyber-crusade against Russian corruption](http://archive.is/FGqQE)" (<http://archive.is/FGqQE>) (4 April 2011), by [Julia Ioffe](#), *The New Yorker*

- [I]f tomorrow ten businessmen spoke up directly and openly we'd live in a different country. Starting tomorrow.

- As quoted in "[Moscow nationalist rally hears attack on Putin party](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-15596400)" (<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-15596400>) (4 April 2011), by [Julia Ioffe](#), *The New Yorker*

- We have problems with illegal migration, we have the problem of the Caucasus, we have a problem of ethnic crimes... the fact that our authorities hypocritically pretend that such problems do not exist leads to people discussing them only in the street, at the Russian March.

- As quoted in [Moscow nationalist rally hears attack on Putin party](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-15596400) (<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-15596400>) (4 November 2011), *BBC*

- The inner compass of Alexei Navalny says where to go to Alexei Navalny, and everything else is uninteresting to me.

- [Echo of Moscow](http://echo.msk.ru/guests/voices/1053.html) (<http://echo.msk.ru/guests/voices/1053.html>) (2013)
 - Original Russian: Нет такого спонсора, которому я хотел бы угодить. Благодаря этому, кстати, мы сейчас на свою избирательную кампанию собрали 39 миллионов точно также маленькими пожертвованиями, поэтому мы абсолютно свободны, и я очень наслаждаюсь этим положением, что я вообще могу что угодно делать, то, что я хочу. Внутренний компас Алексея Навального говорит, куда идти Алексею Навальному, а все остальное мне неинтересно.



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We - Russia - want to be a nation of peace (2022)

Twitter thread (2 March 2022) (<https://twitter.com/navalny/status/1498949516778774529>)

- We — Russia — want to be a nation of peace. Alas, few people would call us that now. But let's at least not become a nation of frightened silent people. Of cowards who pretend not to notice the aggressive war against Ukraine unleashed by our obviously insane czar. I cannot, do not want and will not remain silent watching how pseudo-historical nonsense about the events of 100 years ago has become an excuse for Russians to kill Ukrainians, and for Ukrainians to kill Russians while defending themselves.

It's the third decade of the 21st century, and we are watching news about people burning down in tanks and bombed houses. We are watching real threats to start a nuclear war on our TVs.

I am from the USSR myself. I was born there. And the main phrase from there — from my childhood — was "fight for peace." I call on everyone to take to the streets and fight for peace.

- Putin is not Russia. And if there is anything in Russia right now that you can be most proud of, it is those 6824 people who were detained because - without any call - they took to the streets with placards saying "No War". They say that someone who cannot attend a rally and does not risk being arrested for it cannot call for it. I'm already in prison, so I think I can.

We cannot wait any longer. Wherever you are, in Russia, Belarus or on the other side of the planet, go to the main square of your city every weekday and at 2 pm on weekends and holidays.

If you are abroad, come to the Russian embassy. If you can organise a demonstration, do so on the weekend. Yes, maybe only a few people will take to the streets on the first day. And in the second - even less.

But we must, gritting our teeth and overcoming fear, come out and demand an end to the war.

Each arrested person must be replaced by two newcomers.

If in order to stop the war we have to fill prisons and paddy wagons with ourselves, we will fill prisons and paddy wagons with ourselves.

Everything has a price, and now, in the spring of 2022, we must pay this price. There's no one to do it for us. Let's not "be against the war." Let's fight against the war.



We — Russia — want to be a nation of peace. Alas, few people would call us that now.

But let's at least not become a nation of frightened silent people. Of cowards who pretend not to notice the aggressive war against Ukraine unleashed by our obviously insane czar.

Quotes about

- The current opposition "poster boy" favorite of Russian youth and especially western media is Russian blogger Alexei Navalny whose blog is titled *LiveJournal*. Navalny has featured prominently as a quasi-martyr of the protest movement after spending 15 days in Putin's jail for partaking in a banned protest. At a large protest rally on Christmas Day December 25 in Moscow, Navalny... told the crowd, "I see enough people here to take the Kremlin and the White House (Russia's Presidential home-w.e.) right now..." Western establishment media is infatuated with Navalny. England's *BBC* described Navalny as "arguably the only major opposition figure to emerge in Russia in the past five years," and US *Time* magazine called him "Russia's Erin Brockovich,"... However, more relevant is the fact that **Navalny went to the elite American East Coast Yale University, also home to the Bush family, where he was a "Yale World Fellow."** The charismatic Navalny however is also or has been on the payroll of Washington's regime-destabilizing National Endowment for Democracy (NED). According to a posting on Navalny's own blog, LiveJournal, he was supported in 2007-2008 by the NED.

- Regime Change in the Russian Federation? Why Washington Wants 'Finito' with Vladimir Putin, By F. William Engdahl, *Global Research* (<https://www.globalresearch.ca/regime-change-in-the-russian-federation-why-washington-wants-finito-with-vladimir-putin/28571>), January 10, 2012

- Along with Navalny, key actors in the anti-Putin protest movement are centered around Solidarnost which was created in December 2008 by Boris Nemtsov, Vladimir Ryzhkov and others. Nemtsov is hardly one to protest corruption. According to *Business Week Russia* of September 23, 2007, **Nemtsov introduced Russian banker Boris Brevnov to Gretchen Wilson, a US citizen and an employee of**



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the International Finance Corporation, a financing arm of the World Bank. Wilson and Brevnov married. With the help of Nemtsov Wilson managed to privatize Balakhna Pulp and Paper mill at the giveaway price of just \$7 million. The enterprise was sucked dry and then sold to the Wall Street-Swiss investment bank, CS First Boston bank. The annual turnover of the mill was reportedly \$250 million. S First Boston bank also paid for Nemtsov's trips to the very expensive Davos World Economic Forum. When Nemtsov became a member of the cabinet, his protégé Brevnov was appointed the chairman of the Unified Energy System of Russia JSC. Two years later in 2009 Boris Nemtsov, today's "Mr anti-corruption," used his influence reportedly to get Brevnov off the hook for charges of embezzling billions from assets of Unified Energy System... Nemtsov also took money from jailed Russian oligarch Mikhail Khodorkovsky in 1999 when the latter was using his billions to try to buy the Russian parliament or Duma.

- Regime Change in the Russian Federation? Why Washington Wants 'Finito' with Vladimir Putin, By F. William Engdahl, *Global Research* (<https://www.globalresearch.ca/regime-change-in-the-russian-federation-why-washington-wants-finito-with-vladimir-putin/28571>), January 10, 2012
- The *New York Times* released sequel six in the best-selling Putin-the-Poisoner series on September 22. The incredibly gifted junior G-men and women in the Times Tower have sleuthed yet another episode of boundless evil-doing by the arch-villain Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin. "The editorial board," we are informed, "is a group of opinion journalists whose views are informed by expertise, research, debate and certain longstanding values.... In this blue state special, they spin the tale of Russian dissident Alexei Navalny poisoned with "a nerve agent developed by the Soviet Union." *Jacobin* calls Navalny, who is a right-wing anti-immigrant blogger and YouTube celebrity, "Russia's Trump." From the "established fact" that a poisoning occurred, the rest of the Times editorial is pure conjecture. After the poisoning and spending two days in a Russian hospital, the victim flew off to Germany.... **In a chain of custody not revealed, the "colleagues" sent the "evidence" out of Russia to Germany then also to France and Sweden, where it was subsequently "confirmed by laboratories."** "The powerful poison," we are told is used "against foes of the Russian regime."
Only in the cartoonish mindset of the NYT do the perpetually bungling villains leave such blatant clues to their crimes. The editorial board declares, "many questions remain unanswered and are likely to remain so. Chief among them is whether President Vladimir Putin ordered or approved the attempted assassination." Later in the editorial, this chief question is answered: "Mr. Putin knows what happened..." but "...he continues to hide behind glaringly phony denials."
- NYT Releases Sequel of Putin-the-Poisoner: the Incredulous Case of Mr. Navalny, by Roger Harris, *CounterPunch* (<https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/09/29/nyt-releases-sequel-of-putin-the-poisoner-the-incredulous-case-of-mr-n/>), September 29, 2020
- Outside the comic book world that the editorial paints, there are questions not addressed by the *Times*. Why, after five previous incidents, has the Russian security state not learned to administer fatal doses of poison and cover up their tracks? Why would Putin repeatedly order hits on dissidents that every time boomerang on him by publicizing their grievances and inviting punishing sanctions? An alternative explanation for this poisoning story is that this is a setup to discredit and weaken an official enemy of the US imperial state. The nation's newspaper of record has a long history as a faithful mouthpiece of empire. On spinning the Putin-the-Poisoner tale, the Times has been but one voice in the Russo-phobic chorus of western media. **The truth of the Navalny case is hard to ascertain. What is clear is that the "evidence" that the Times touts has not been made public but has been used to bludgeon Russia.**
 Putin is not up for election. But there is something else at stake and that is, as the Times editorial mentions, the possible "cancellation of the **Nord Stream 2 pipeline**, a gas conduit from Russia to Germany," which is of vital economic interest to Russia. The US, now the world's leading producer of fossil fuels, opposes the project. In a bipartisan effort, the US even threatens "crushing legal and economic [secondary] sanctions" on the German seaport of Sassnitz for supplying the project.

Yale

Navalny went to the elite American East Coast Yale University, also home to the Bush family, where he was a "Yale World Fellow." The charismatic Navalny however is also or has been on the payroll of Washington's regime-destabilizing National Endowment for Democracy (NED)

- NYT Releases Sequel of Putin-the-Poisoner: the Incredible Case of Mr. Navalny, by Roger Harris, *CounterPunch* (<https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/09/29/nyt-releases-sequel-of-putin-the-poisoner-the-incredible-case-of-mr-n/>), September 29, 2020

See also

- [2021-2022 Russo-Ukrainian crisis](#)
- [Vladimir Putin](#)
- [Russia](#)

External links

- Encyclopedic article on [Alexei Navalny](#) on Wikipedia

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